

Here's How You Can Help

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ARKANSANS ARE
Fighting Back
AGAINST
Juvenile
CRIME



Smart Choices, Better Chances

Arkansas and the rest of the nation continue to battle the scourge of juvenile crime. Tough new laws are being used to crack down on young offenders. And the Arkansas Attorney General has created a program to spread the message of law education statewide.

Seeking to bring criminal-justice education from the courtroom to the classroom, Attorney General Mike Beebe is offering an innovative law-education program known as "Smart Choices, Better Chances." This nationally recognized program teaches students about specific criminal laws and punishments, taking law education beyond a mere overview of the criminal-justice system.

The Attorney General's staff has worked with educators, attorneys, and law-enforcement officers to develop a curriculum that meets the needs of juveniles, schools, and law enforcement in understanding juvenile crime and its consequences.

The "Smart Choices, Better Chances" program is unique because students are provided with information about specific criminal laws and punishments, in addition to general education about the justice system. Choices and their consequences are a theme that is emphasized throughout the program, and a dynamic series of videos is used to reinforce each lesson.

A crucial part of the program is training volunteers to present the program in their communities. To eradicate juvenile crime across our state, we each must do our part. Mail us the attached card today and learn how you can help fight back against juvenile crime in Arkansas.



Here's What The Program Includes

- An overview of the program includes a test of students' general knowledge about the criminal-justice system.
- An introduction to the justice system reviews the ages at which juveniles become eligible to be tried in circuit court and crimes that are punishable by incarceration.
- Laws relating to specific crimes are explained. Students learn complicated legal terms through role-playing.
- Students learn how they can be charged as criminal gang members and about the consequences of bringing weapons onto school property.
- Explanations are given for possession and delivery of illegal substances. Discussion also focuses on victimization and the impact that all crimes have on individuals and on society.
- Students are retested on their knowledge of the justice system and the lesson ends with a dramatic video providing a look at life in the Arkansas prison system.

Calling All Volunteers

The Attorney General's Office constantly receives many requests for this program. In order to meet the needs across the state, the law-education staff conducts free training seminars for citizens interested in becoming volunteer instructors in their communities.

By recruiting qualified people to teach the program locally, Attorney General Beebe hopes to make "Smart Choices, Better Chances" available to every school in Arkansas.

You can help! To learn more, please call the Community Relations Division of the Attorney General's Office at 501-682-1020 or 1-800-448-3014.

☐ **YES, I want to help stop juvenile crime in Arkansas.**

____ I would like to schedule a presentation of "Smart Choices, Better Chances" in my community.

____ I would like to be trained to present the program.

____ I would like to receive more information about the program.

____ I would like to host a training in my community.

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

